

REMARKS

Enclosed herewith is a Substitute Specification in which the specification as filed has been amended in various places to correct typographical and grammatical errors, and to also add section headings.

In support of the above, enclosed herewith is a copy of the specification as filed marked up with the above changes.

The undersigned attorney asserts that no new matter has been incorporated into the Substitute Specification.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, claims 4, 5 and 8 have each been made proper singularly dependent claims, each depending from claim 1; and claims 7 and 9 have each been made proper singularly dependent claims, each depending from claim 5.

Applicant believes that the above changes answer the Examiner's 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) objection to claims 4-9, and respectfully requests withdrawal thereof.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0058777 to Martynov et al. in view of U.S. Patent 4,643,538 to Wilson, and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,025,959 to Moskovich. The Examiner has further rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martynov et al.

in view of Wilson and Moskovich, and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,016,226 to Arisawa.

The Martynov et al. publication discloses an optical scanning device having a compound objective lens system including a first lens element 14 and a second lens element 13, in which the objective lens system has a numerical aperture greater than 0.65 (i.e., $NA > 1$).

The Wilson patent discloses a combined beam cross-section correcting, collimating and de-astigmatizing optical system in which a planar mirror is disposed intermediate a first and a second triangular prism, for reflecting light from the first triangular prism to the second triangular prism.

The Moskovich patent discloses color corrected projection lenses for use with curved faceplate cathode ray tubes, which includes a first lens unit, a second lens unit, a third lens unit, and a corrector lens unit, in which the ratio of the absolute value of the focal length of the first lens unit to the overall focal length of the projection lens is preferably greater than 2.5 (see col. 3, lines 60-65).

The subject invention relates to a compound objective lens having a first lens element and a second lens element.

The Examiner has indicated that Wilson teaches that the first element comprises a mirror surface for internally redirecting

a radiation beam passing through the first element, and then cites col. 3, lines 47-56.

Applicant believes that the Examiner is mistaken. In particular, Wilson shows that in the lens system 5, the first element, i.e., the first triangular prism 6 and the planar mirror 8 are separate and distinct elements. Hence, any light rays entering the first triangular prism 6 pass completely through the first triangular prism 6 and exit therefrom before ever encountering the planar mirror 8. However, claim 1 specifically states "the first element comprising a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element".

With regard to Moskovich, Applicant first submits that one skilled in the art would not look to Moskovich when faced with an optical system for scanning a record carrier, in that Moskovich concerns a color corrected projection lens for use with a curved face crt. Further, Applicant submits that Moskovich does not supply that which is missing from Martynov et al. and Wilson, i.e., "the first element comprising a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element".


The Arisawa patent discloses an objective lens for a microscope. The Examiner has indicated that Arisawa teaches the focal length F of the objective lens is less than 1 mm, at col. 4, lines 47-55.

Applicant has studied this section of Arisawa as well as the rest of Arisawa, and would like to note that Arisawa discloses that the focal length of the objective lens is 1 mm, not less than 1 mm, as claimed in claim 3. Furthermore, Applicant submits that Arisawa does not supply that which is missing from Martynov et al., Wilson and Moskovich, i.e., "the first element comprising a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element".

In view of the above, Applicant believes that the subject invention, as claimed, is not rendered obvious by the prior art, either individually or collectively, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicant believes that this application, containing claims 1-9, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
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By Burrett Jones